



News Release

Program Executive Office (Cruise Missiles and Joint Unmanned Aerial Vehicles)
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TOMAHAWK LAND ATTACK MISSILE MEETS Y2K FUNCTIONAL GROUND TEST

The Program Executive Officer for Cruise Missiles and Joint Unmanned Aerial Vehicles conducted a Functional Ground Test of a Block II Tomahawk on 24 September 1998. The test was part of the routine reliability assessment program, with objectives added to demonstrate Year 2000 compliance through the use of a live missile. Prior to the live firing, several simulated Y2K test runs were conducted. These simulations included: launch in 1999 land in 2000, launch in 2000, and launch on Feb 29, 2000. The actual firing run consisted of a launch in 1999 with the rollover to 2000 occurring approximately 60 minutes into a 191 minute flight. All tests, including the live firing, were completed without anomalies.

The Functional Ground Test program tests all variants of the Tomahawk missile at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head, MD. The missile is strapped into the test stand for the duration of the test "flight," that includes rocket motor firing and separation; separation of all jettisoned items; deployment of fins, inlet ducts and wings; and operation of the cruise engine, fins, and guidance systems. Launch commands and navigation inputs are provided by simulators to the missile so that its guidance and control system receives the same signals as it does in actual flight.

A Functional Ground Test with additional Y2K objectives will be conducted on a Block III Tomahawk this November.

For more information call PEO(CU) Public Affairs at (301) 757-6316 or (301) 757-5289. For information on other PEO(CU) cruise missile and unmanned aerial vehicle initiatives tune in to the PEO(CU) web site at www.cunet.peocu.js.mil.

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Live firing of a Tomahawk missile on the test stand